Participation of children in functions

*79. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that small school children are being sent to perform in high profile birthday functions of past and present leaders where they have to wait for hours;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to end this practice and direct the State Governments not to summon small children for such functions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Some instances of such occurrences have been reported in the Press.

(b) to (d) The practice does not generally exist in Schools under the jurisdiction of the Central Government. As regards schools under the control of State Governments, it is for respective State Governments to take necessary action.

Gandhi Heritage Sites Project

*80. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has launched Gandhi Heritage Sites Project to map the milestones of Mahatma Gandhi's life as has been done in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Culture has identified the following important sites connected with Gandhiji for special development:—

(1) Porbandar (Birth Place), (Gujarat)
(2) Mumbai (Mani Bhavan), (Maharashtra)
(3) Champaran (Bihar)
(4) Sabarmati (Gujarat)
(5) Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
(6) Dandi (Gujarat)
(7) Sevagram Ashram (Maharashtra)
(8) Pune (Maharashtra)
(9) Kolkata (Beliaghata) (West Bengal)
(10) Gandhi Smriti (Delhi)
(11) Phoenix settlement (South Africa)
(12) Tolstoy Farm (South Africa)
(13) In North West Frontier (Pakistan)
(14) Noakhali (Bangladesh)
(15) Kingsley Hall, East End, London (United Kingdom)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Construction of A "Ghat" on the bank of Yamuna

440. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to construct a "Ghat;" on the bank of Raver Yamuna, on the pattern of "Har Ki Pori Ghat" at Hardwar (Uttaranchal) to celebrate "Chhat Festival" in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is expected to be constructed and other facilities to be provided for devotees?